

MINUTES

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR AIKEN COUNTY

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 736 RICHLAND AVENUE, W., AIKEN, S.C.

REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 20, 2004 – 7:00 P. M.

(A) CALL TO ORDER

Determining that a quorum was present, Chairman Young called the meeting to order.

Council Members present:

Chairman Ronnie Young
Kathy Rawls
Scott Singer
LaWana McKenzie
Chuck Smith
Eddie Butler
Charles Barton
Rick Osbon
Willar H. Hightower, Jr.

Also present:

J. Clay Killian, County Administrator
Robert M. Bell, County Attorney
Chris Ceasar, Acting Council Clerk

(B) INVOCATION

Councilman Hightower led in the invocation.

(C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Osbon led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(D) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 6, 2004 Worksession
2. January 6, 2004 Regular Meeting
 - a. Councilman Butler made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded.
 - b. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

(E) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a. Councilwoman McKenzie made a motion to amend and approve the agenda as follows:
 1. Delete Old Business Item 1
 2. Move Consent Item 6 to be considered after Executive Session.
 3. Add Consent Item 7 – A Voice Motion to authorize the purchase of radios, guns, uniforms, safety vests, and other equipment for Magistrates' Constables, with a maximum expenditure of \$23,391.

4. Add Consent Item 8 – A Voice Motion to approve the correction of the salary grade of the Property Evidence Manager in the Sheriff’s Office from Grade 18 to Grade 19 to correct salary inequities.
- b. Councilman Osbon seconded. The amended agenda was passed by unanimous vote.

(F) AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. Proposed Resolution to Commend Mrs. Doris M. Hickson for Being Named South Carolina Assistant Principal of the Year.
(McKenzie)
 - a. Councilwoman McKenzie moved for the adoption. Councilman Hightower seconded.
 - b. Passed by unanimous vote.

(G) PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Proposed Ordinance to Place a Moratorium on the Submission of Applications for New Freestanding Signs in Aiken County Which Exceed Thirty Two Square Feet in Size, Effective January 7, 2004, Until Revised Zoning and Development Standards Have Been Reviewed and Adopted by Aiken County Council.
 - a. Mr. Lindsey Yonce, Project Manager for Atlantic Cost Properties, thanked Council for their intent to amend the proposed Ordinance to exclude subdivision signs.
 - b. Councilman Singer asked staff for a process definition.
 - c. Mr. Killian responded that the revised Zoning and Development Standards would be presented to Council and the Planning Commission at the same time. Council would then go through the standard three readings and a public hearing to adopt the revised Standards.

(H) OLD BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution to Appoint Three Persons to the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission.
(County Council)
 - a. **DELETED**
2. Proposed Ordinance to Place a Moratorium on the Submission of Applications for New Freestanding Signs in Aiken County Which Exceed Thirty-Two Square Feet in Size, Effective January 7, 2004, Until Revised Zoning and Development Standards Have Been Reviewed and Adopted by Aiken County Council.
(Development Committee) (Second Reading)
 - a. Councilman Hightower made a motion for the approval. Councilwoman Rawls seconded.
 - b. Councilman Singer made a motion to amend the Ordinance by adding “except those permitted by Section 24-255 (1) of the Aiken County Code of Ordinances”. Councilwoman Rawls seconded.
 - c. The amendment passed by unanimous vote.

- d. The amended Ordinance passed second reading by unanimous vote.

(I) CONSENT AGENDA/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

I. REGULAR CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proposed Resolution to Appoint One Member to Designated Boards, Commissions and Committees with Terms of the Appointees to Run Concurrent with that of the Councilmembers from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.
(Rawls, Singer, McKenzie, Smith, Butler, Barton)
2. Proposed Resolution to Appoint One Member to the ARTS Citizens Advisory Committee.
(County Council)
3. Proposed Resolution to Approve the Allocation of Funds for Various Non Profit Agencies from the FY 2004 Council Contingency Fund.
(County Council)
4. Proposed Resolution to Accept Easements on Andrews Circle (C-493) and Bethcar Church Road (C-246) Needed for Capital Projects Sales Tax Paving Project.
(Development Committee)
5. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Council Chairman to Execute an Agreement with the Lower Savannah Council of Governments for the Administration of the Wagener Human Services Building CDBG Grant.
(Development Committee)
6. **MOVED TO BE CONSIDERED FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**
7. Proposed Voice Motion To Authorize the purchase of radios, guns, uniforms, safety vests, and other equipment for Magistrates' Constables, with a maximum expenditure of \$23,391.
(ADDITION)
8. Proposed Voice Motion To Approve the correction of the salary grade of the Property Evidence Manager in the Sheriff's Office from Grade 18 to Grade 19 to correct salary inequities.
(ADDITION)
 - a. Councilwoman McKenzie made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Butler seconded.
 - b. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

(J) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

1. How USC-A Small Business Development Center can Benefit Aiken County Government.
(Ms. Reba Mosteller, Area Manager, Small Business Development Center)
 - a. Ms. Mosteller distributed an information packet and explained what the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) does for the community and the State. Ms. Mosteller asked Council for financial assistance, \$10,000, in order to maintain services for the

community. The SBDC receives State funding which allows them to apply for Federal matching funds.

- b. Councilman Singer asked that Council look at the request during the next budget cycle.
- c. Councilman Smith asked for the annual operating budgets of the SBDC for the past two years.

(K) ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND THE PUBLIC RECORD

- 1. Fiscal Year 2004 Aiken County Contingency Report as of January 7, 2004.

(L) INFORMAL MEETING OF WHOLE

- a. Councilwoman McKenzie made a motion to recess for Executive Session. Councilman Butler seconded.
- b. The motion to recess passed by unanimous vote.

RECESSED – 7:27 P. M.

(M) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Legal Matters:
 - a. Status Report on Pending Litigation, Legal Claims and Legal Advice.
(County Attorney) (Verbal)
- 2. Contractual Matters:
- 3. Personnel Matters:

RECONVENED – 8:40 P. M.

Following Executive Session, Council took action on the following:

Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Council Chairman to Execute a Contract with Gilbert Group Engineers, LLC for Professional Services Related to the Proposed Hydrogen Lab at the Savannah River Research Campus.
(Development Committee)

- a. Councilman Singer made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Rawls seconded.
- b. Councilwoman Rawls made a motion to amend the Resolution by adding a new number 1 under “Now Therefore...” to read “County Council authorizes the County Administrator to submit a proposal to Westinghouse Savannah River Company for the construction and lease of a hydrogen lab at the Savannah River Research Campus.” and to add “with Gilbert Group Engineers, LLC” to number 3 under “Now Therefore ...” after the word contract.
- c. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded.
- d. The amendments passed by unanimous vote.

- e. The amended Resolution passed by unanimous vote.
- f. Councilman Osbon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Hightower seconded.
- g. The motion to adjourn passed by unanimous vote.

(N) ADJOURNMENT – 8:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED:

Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

Ronnie Young, Chairman